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AMENDMENTIN THE CLAIMS:

11. (AMENDED) A manual transmission assembly comprising:

a shift lever to operatively rotate an interlock;

a reverse biasing assembly including said interlock rotatable between a first position and a second position, a detent mechanism which substantially contacts said interlock, said detent mechanism including a housing having an external surface with a recessed portion, and said reverse biasing assembly further including a detent switch which coacts with said external surface of said detent mechanism to indicate when said interlock is in said first position;

a shift rail rotatable and axially moveable by said shift lever, said shift rail rotating with said interlock;

a plurality of shift forks operatively engageable by said shift rail; and

a plurality of gears operatively connected to said plurality of shift forks.

Please delete ~~claim~~ 12.

13. (AMENDED) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 11 wherein said interlock further includes a contoured perimeter having an arcuate surface and a raised ramp and said detent mechanism further includes a contact surface which substantially contacts said contoured perimeter of said interlock.

15. (AMENDED) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 14 wherein said detent mechanism is biased by a spring member to allow said contact surface of said detent mechanism to substantially contact said contoured perimeter of said interlock when said interlock is in said second position.

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16. (AMENDED) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 11 wherein said manual transmission assembly is in a reverse gear or a first forward gear when said interlock is in said first position.

Please delete ~~claims~~ 17 and 18.

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19. (AMENDED) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 21 wherein said contact pin engages said elevated portion of said exterior surface of said detent mechanism when said interlock is in said first position.

20. (AMENDED) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 21 wherein said contact pin engages said recessed portion of said exterior surface of said detent mechanism when said interlock is in said second position.

21. (NEW) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 11 wherein said detent switch includes a contact pin that cooperates with said exterior surface of said housing.

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22. (NEW) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 19 wherein said contact pin engages said detent switch when said contact pin engages said elevated portion of said detent mechanism.

23. (NEW) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 22 wherein said manual transmission assembly is in a reverse gear or a first forward gear when said contact pin engages said elevated portion of said external surface of said detent mechanism.

24. (NEW) The manual transmission assembly as recited in claim 20 wherein said contact pin does not engage said detent switch when said contact pin engages said recessed portion of said external surface of said detent mechanism.